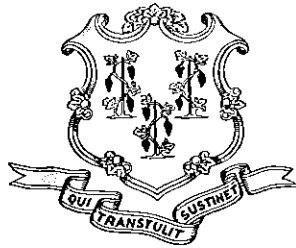


SENATOR ANDREA L. STILLMAN
Twentieth District

Legislative Office Building, Room 3600
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Toll-free 1-800-842-1420
Tel. (860) 240-0589

Stillman@senatedems.ct.gov
www.SenatorStillman.cga.ct.gov



State of Connecticut
SENATE

DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

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Public Safety & Security Committee

Member

Education Committee

Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee

Public Health Committee

Testimony in Support of SB 641

Good morning, Senator McDonald, Representative Lawlor, and members of the Judiciary Committee. I am submitting testimony in support of **Senate Bill 641**, An Act Concerning the Statute of Limitations for Medical Malpractice Actions with Respect to Acquired Brain Injury.

This proposal was presented to me by a constituent in regard to a problem that he encountered with the current statute of limitations of 2 years. This gentleman was misdiagnosed with multiple sclerosis—when, in fact, he was a victim of brain trauma. Over an extended period of time, he saw many doctors, and eventually was diagnosed for his real injury. Unfortunately, by then, it was too late for the proper treatment and rehabilitation. And as a result, he is permanently disabled, paralyzed completely on the right side of his body.

He believes that in cases such as his, when individuals are unable to speak or fend for themselves, more time should be available to seek recourse. That is why I support his suggestion that there be a special extension of the statute of limitations to 4 years in such cases.

This extension of the statute of limitations would be narrowly defined to cover post-birth incidents, so that it would be available only to people who have “acquired traumatic brain injuries.”

I would also like to point out that, when he made this request, my constituent noted that he was fully aware he could not take advantage of the extended statute of limitations, should it become law. However, he was requesting this legislative action because he wanted to ensure that other folks who have endured what he has will have some redress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andrea L. Stillman
State Senator, 20th District